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THE MCGILL DAILY

VOLUME 83 • NUMBER 39

Is absolute zero cold enough? since 1911

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1993

Protestors Silence Lief

Unscrupulous therapists create false memories of abuse - Lief

BY GILLIAN DONALD

Protesters of False Memory Syndrome managed to silence Dr. Harold Lief, a retired psychiatrist and founding member of the False Memory Syndrome Foundation.

Dr. Lief was supposed to address 200 people who arrived at Leacock building Thursday night. But the lecture was disturbed by some members of the audience.

Using noise makers, whistles and exaggerated coughs, along with shouting, approximately 20 protesters halted Dr. Lief's presentation at McGill University Thursday evening.

Lief, who sits on the Board of Directors of the False Memory Syndrome Foundation, is the personal therapist of the organization's founders. Lief believes unscrupulous therapists create false memories of incest and sexual abuse in their patients. His lecture was to investigate this theory.

The unruly crowd of protesters did not wait for Dr. Gilbert Pinard, the chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at McGill, to introduce Lief before demonstrating their anger.

Pinard's opening remarks were met with angry outcries "Where are the victims?" shouted those who opposed the event and who felt the need to stop it from happening.

Richard Cruess, Dean of Medicine, at McGill University, attempted to control the crowd, asking them to listen to Lief. He said "The issue this evening is one of academic freedom. An obligation to examine controversial issues of society. We [McGill University] have the absolute right to do that."

Lief, once again began his presentation only to be booed and jeered. He said "It is people with small minds who are intent about disrupting this meeting. I am the last one who has to hear this nonsense from you."

"If you'd permit me, I'd like to be able to discuss child abuse," Lief continued. Lief said he does not deny that incest occurs. Rather he is questioning the malpractice of therapists.

Pinard offered the protesters an opportunity to deliver a fifteen minute rebuttal at the completion of Lief's presentation. However, the protesters disregarded this offer and

continued to disrupt the lecture.

Dr. Connie Kristiansen, an associate professor of psychiatry at Carleton University in Ottawa, began with the first question. When Pinard asked Kristiansen to join the panel she responded, "I will never join gentlemen of your nature."

Kristiansen asked Pinard to let her ask that the audience allow Lief to speak. "Touché", Kristiansen balked at Pinard when he mentioned this point.

After several more minutes of disorder, Pinard stood at the podium and said, "We have seen to-night how free speech can be stolen. I apologize to those who came to hear the speaker, I ask you to please leave. We can not have this talk."

After Pinard's closing remarks, a member of the audience said to Kristiansen "You should be ashamed. You have no respect for freedom and no respect for yourselves."

Over the past week the Montréal

General Hospital and the McGill Faculty of Medicine have been under fire. On November 12th and 13th, the Montréal General is hosting a conference to discuss False Memory Syndrome which has been opposed by many.

40 community groups have written letters and postcards to the organizers demanding that the conference be cancelled or a debate be incorporated into it.

Community groups and oppo-

nents of the conference used Thursday evening's presentation as a debate. When Lief stood at the podium, chants of "false memory is a false syndrome" drowned him out.

Martin Dufresne, from Montréal Men Against Sexism, a community group opposed to the conference said, "The community response has been tremendous. It is unacceptable that Lief be given a forum to speak unchallenged."

The Human Rights Commission listens to Montréal's gay community Gay rights: getting ready to be heard

BY SUSAN ROOP AND LIZ UNNA

While Québec was the first province in Canada to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in 1977, it in no way can boast of a clean record since that date. The names of, for example, activist Joe Rose and Yves Lalonde, both murdered within the past four years because they were gay, have come to symbolize violence against the gay community in Montréal.

Queer Québécois continue to be victims of daily discrimination, ranging from violent bashings to subtle prejudices.

Two years ago, the Committee on Violence of the Round Table of Lesbians and Gays Committee in greater Montréal requested a public inquiry into the increasing rates of violence against members of the gay community in Montréal.

Today marks the first day of public hearings on discrimination and violence towards gays and lesbians in Québec. The Human Rights Commission of Québec (CDP) is holding the 6 day event, consisting of 35 presentations by individuals and organizations—the first hearing of its kind ever in the world.

"We will not change every human being in every society [by the hearings], but what's important is [how we change] the attitude of the government," said Noël St-Pierre, an immigration and human rights lawyer who was involved in a workshop aimed at preparing the Montréal gay community for the hearings.

At the workshop, held two weeks



The Gay and Lesbian Community Centre prepares for the hearings

ago by the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre, representatives from the Centre outlined the three main goals they hope to achieve at the hearings. The first is an acknowledgement that the rights to social benefits of same-sex couples are equal to those of heterosexual couples.

The second is to initiate an educational campaign in order to promote positive awareness of homosexuals, especially in an effort to eradicate the occurrence of police violence.

The third and probably most important goal of the hearings is to impress upon the CDP, namely through the presentation of personal accounts, the magnitude of gay and lesbian oppression in Québec society.

Past president of the Centre, Elizabeth Nevée, explained that 20 years after a Comité sur la violence for lesbians and gays was created, violence and discrimination still exists on a large scale in Québec. According to Nevée, there have been 13 murders of gays and lesbians in the last four years and 10 aggressions every week. She urges people to attend the hearings: "We have five days of hearings and we need those rooms to be filled to show that we're here...we're 10 per cent of the population, and we need to prove it."

Another concern raised at the workshop was that of lesbian attendance. Often, said Irène Demczuk who spoke at the workshop, any discussion of homosexuals and their rights deals primarily with men, leaving lesbians who are doubly discriminated against (homo-

sexuals and women), on a back burner. The Centre de santé des femmes de Montréal, Bi-The-Way and the lesbian caucus are just a few of the groups to give presentations which will hopefully address problems explicitly faced by lesbians and bisexual women in Québec.

Other issues that will be raised during the public hearings are the battle against AIDS, youth problems, relations with the cops and between gay patients and doctors.

The hearings are to be held from November 15 to 22 at La Commission des droits de la personne, 360 rue St-Jacques Ouest, 2nd floor. To get a schedule of the hearings, call 873-5146, local 260 or come by the Daily (we have a schedule posted).

The more people that attend, the better!

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Hollywood and hominoid evolution

BY JOHN DAVIS

Dr. Donald Johanson is one of the Magi of Hominoid Archaeology, a founding father type with all the mystique and power a human scientist can exhibit. He has plied his trade all over the world, and especially in such African countries as the Sudan and Egypt.

Dr. Johanson is best known for his discovery of the *Australopithecus afarensis* specimen A.L. 288-1 ("Lucy") near Hadar, Ethiopia in 1979, and his ensuing role in the writing of the most widely accepted contemporary model of hominid evolution.

As the presenter of the sixteenth Osler Lecture on Wednesday, November 10, Dr. Johanson did little to destroy the image of the charming archaeologist to which Harrison Ford's character has doomed all palaeo-researchers. Donald Johanson is the Anthony Robbins of archaeology.

He presented his subject, "Searching for Our Oldest Ancestors", with charisma, weaving humorous anecdotes and culinary compliments while modelling the human story.

In his preamble, Dr. Johanson discussed the all-important role of Africa, both present and past, in

human history. He also discussed the pivotal positions of the local Afar people, the Ethiopian government, and the Ethiopian intellectual community within the research and findings of his team.

Dr. Johanson lauded them for their patience with the foreign researchers, saying, "Without the ability to have people like this, [consenting, co-operating and participating] we would not be able to do this work out here."

The presentation itself consisted of a history of both the prominent researchers—Raymond Dart, Mary and Louis Leakey, Richard Leakey—and the prominent finds—the Taung skull, "Zinjanthropus", etc.—from the search for human origins.

During the course of his slide projection, Dr. Johanson also dealt with the question of vegetarianism, hunting and/or scavenging and the local environment. He assigned new dates to Lucy which were derived from accelerated Potassium-Argon dates (3.19-3.21 million years old).

Finally, Dr. Johanson presented his summary of the hominid phylogenetic tree, which begins with the appearance of *Australopithecus afarensis* around four million years ago in sub-Saharan Africa, the off-

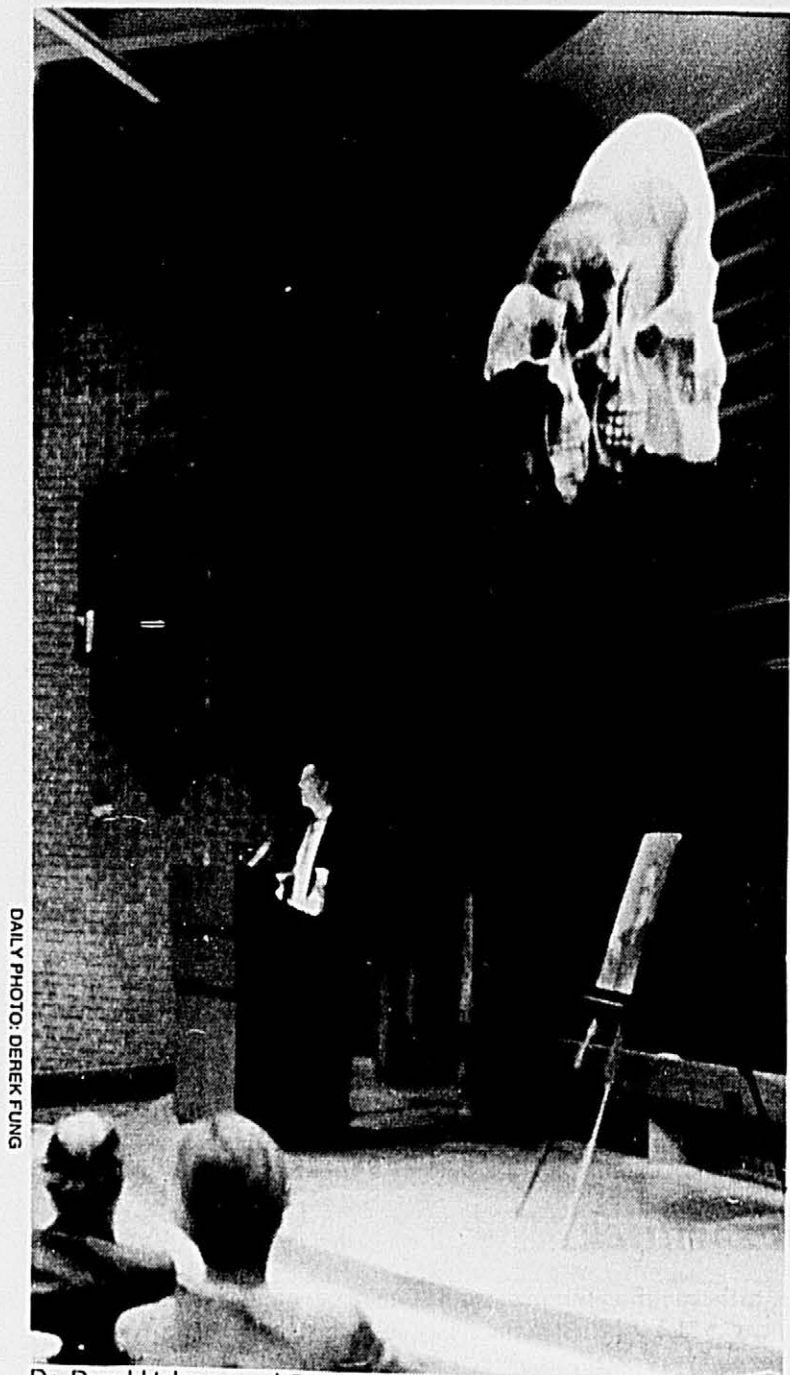
branching of *Australopithecus africanus*, *robustus* and *boisiei* around three million years ago, the eventual extinction of the robust forms, and the "birth" of *Homo* from *Australopithecus africanus*.

The sixteenth Osler Lecture was both very well presented and received. If any criticism can be offered, beyond the absence of a question and answer period, it would be that same one which has followed Donald Johanson all over—his work is just a bit too pragmatic, a bit too positivistic, and a bit too Hollywood.

Johanson glossed over important debates and inconsistencies which have divided researchers with the same ease that he complemented the chefs of Montréal on their cuisine.

He also neglected to mention why he chose not to accept the Linnean nomenclature for Lucy's type suggested by Mary Leakey, and he generally obscured any other interpretations of the human fossil record other than his own, thus presenting a consensus which does not necessarily exist.

Dr. Johanson concluded his lecture by mentioning his three-part Nova special which is expected to air February 28, March 1 and 2; 1994.



DAILY PHOTO: DEREK FUNG

Dr. Donald Johanson and Crania

The power of the vote

Women in El Salvador

BY WAYNE HILTZ

"Women in El Salvador are now making their voices heard after years of discrimination, repression and war," said Liliane De Cuellar, a left-wing candidate in next March's general elections in El Salvador. She spoke at McGill last Wednesday about the situation of women in her country.

"During this transition from war to peace, possibilities are opening for various social sectors to express themselves in a new democratic society," she said. "Women are united, determined, and informed of what is happening in our country."

According to De Cuellar, the January 1992 signing of a peace accord between the right-wing ARENA government and the leftist Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) "marks a new chapter in our country's history", away from a repressive, militaristic system to a pluralistic, participatory democratic society.

Salvadorian women suffer a double discrimination based on their gender and class.

"As well as struggling for our rights as women, we are at the same time try to change society," she explained.

De Cuellar, who is Secretary-General of the National Teachers'

Union, said that 37 per cent of Salvadorian women are illiterate and less than one per cent complete a primary education despite the fact that they comprise 53 per cent of the population.

Furthermore, little attention is given to women's health concerns, as evidenced by the existence of only one maternity hospital in El Salvador.

Three-quarters of economically active women are involved in poorly paid activities such as selling food, taking care of children, and cleaning. Over half of Salvadorian families depend on women for financial and moral support, due mostly to the absence of partners or to the separation of the family by the war.

In addition, said De Cuellar, over half of women suffer physical abuse by their partner and sexual harassment by employers.

Uniting against oppression

In the face of this oppressive situation, Salvadorian women have united in the Women of the '90s coalition which comprises professionals, workers, and peasants.

"We have unified and analyzed our position so that we can have a political platform which would represent women's point of view in all



Liliane de Cuellar

the political parties [except ARENA]," De Cuellar said.

During the period leading to the start of the electoral campaign on November 20, she noted that all political parties are discussing women's issues.

As a FMLN candidate for the Legislative Assembly, De Cuellar said the political party has committed itself to promote women's rights and equal opportunities, and to create a Ministry for Women and the Family.

Specific measures include the right to credits and assistance for peasant women, changing the por-

trayal of women in advertising, and more focus on gender issues in the educational system.

"But the electoral process has been marked by various obstacles," De Cuellar said. For example, thirty per cent of the eligible voters do not yet have an ID card which is needed to vote.

"The ARENA government knows that those without an ID won't vote for them and the electoral council doesn't have the capacity to register them," she explained.

The other major obstacle has been the recent assassination of two

senior FMLN officials by far-right groups. "In response, we have protested at the U.N. and put pressure on the government to investigate these crimes and the structure of the death squads," De Cuellar said.

At the same time, she added that different popular groups are organizing hunger strikes to protest the impunity shown towards members of the military and security forces who commit human rights abuses.

While admitting that the assassinations have been a "setback" to the electoral process, De Cuellar said the "people of El Salvador are simply not going to allow this to happen."

DAILY PHOTO BY JENNIFER MCCORMICK

COMMENT

They're only Natives

For over a decade Canada has been using Nitassinan, home of the Innu people, as a party palace in the clouds where they invite their NATO friends for military maneuvers.

That the Canadian government has never recognized Innu land claims goes without saying. These low-level flights hardly constitute an isolated event — they are, after all, brought to you by the makers of the Mohawk Oka crisis and the Cree genocide in James Bay.

In the sky above Nitassinan, fighter jocks fly Hornets and Tornado's by the seat of their pants in deck top maneuvers, blasting the soundtrack from *Top Gun*. Meanwhile on the ground, the Innu commit suicide, life in villages becomes a nightmare and wildlife is destroyed for ever.

Who's the enemy? What evil dictator is the Canadian government preparing for? The Cold War has defrosted and the Warsaw Pact has crumbled. Or maybe all these military pirouettes are being performed for South American dictatorships and Middle Eastern "terrorists"? (Can't let our urban bombing get rusty can we? We've got all those atomic bombs to drop and all those children to kill...)

Why do the Innu have to bear these intrusions? Would low-level flights over Westmount or over the Edmonton Mall be sanctioned by our elected politicians? Not bloody likely. The simple fact is that the Innu are being exploited because they are Natives. Such violations never occur where 'real' Canadians live.

Human Rights violations don't apply to North American Natives. Those are only for third world dictators and the Eastern Bloc countries.

Who cares if the Innu complain? They're only Natives...

- Hasan Karrar, Dave Ley, Kristin Andrews, David Austin, Melanie Newton, Afra Jalabi, Liz Unna, Damion Stodola, Zack Taylor, Terna, Kerilyn Cole



DAILY PHOTO BY CHANTELE CLEMENTS

HYDE PARK

False Memory protests: scientific ignorance

An opinion by Todd Zwiilich

Last night, Leacock 132 was on national television. Ordinarily, I might think it pretty impressive that McGill lectures are making such big news. However, the events that unfolded at last night's False Memory Syndrome lecture were nothing short of a blatant display of scientific ignorance and reactionism.

Harold Lief's theory concerning the possibility that certain memories of childhood sexual abuse may be false threatens to undermine much of the important progress that has been made in insuring that reports of physical abuse of any kind are taken seriously and investigated fully. Undoubtedly, therefore, concern over the theory's impact is justified. However, Dr. Lief's theory is just that...a theory. And as anyone who has even the most remote notion of the scientific process is aware, this means that it is being submit-

ted to the community not as a truth, but as an idea to be tested and subsequently verified or rejected through systematic and unbiased research. No one is saying that the majority of reports of sexual abuse are untrue, and certainly no one has suggested that people who report being abused as children are lying.

People who enter psychotherapy are seeking, as are clinicians, to discover definite causes for their particular problem, to have a sense of closure. What is suggested by the theory, therefore, is that false memories may arise as an artifact of the interactions between the patient and clinician in currently accepted methods of psychotherapy.

It in no way insinuates that people with false memories are lying about their abuse, but instead that the possible presence of false memories as an artifact of psychotherapy should be investigated, and that

methods of psychotherapy need to be rethought if the theory is proven to have merit. By the same token, if research shows the theory to be unfounded, then we may happily throw it in the garbage where it belongs.

The concerns and anger surrounding this theory are real and legitimate, and I agree that a great deal of care needs to be taken in its investigation. However, those who disrupted the lecture last night showed only that they are completely ignorant to the methods of scientific investigation and to the psychiatric basis of the theory. Their concerns would have been conveyed much more effectively by engaging Dr. Lief in intelligent debate, and by allowing the theory to be proven false. Instead, they opened up a whole new can of worms, namely the active suppression of an idea by a community which is supposed to be liberal and open-minded.

LETTERS

enough notice for you? A helpful reminder: there will probably be some performances next year so you better mark them down on your calendar now to be on top of things.

Thirdly, I'm not expecting you to push aside other articles to make room for a review you were responsible for. I

understand that space in the *Daily* is limited. I mean, I would never ask you to give up an important section such as your "space filler" on page 6 of the Nov. 10 issue which is obviously symbolic of your journalistic dedication.

Lastly, regarding your request that "next time I should get my shit together

sooner," I beg you not to concern yourself with my shit. Instead, you might concentrate on your own stool and work towards it exiting from the proper orifice. No hard feelings.

Matt MacFadzean
U3 English Literature

LETTERS

Enforce the rules

To the Daily:

This time, the *Daily* has really outdone itself in its blatant display of hypocrisy, bias and subjectivity. If I remember right, letters must be under 300 words; Hyde Parks are longer, but under 500 words. This is why Dan Robins (who generally hates my letters) always asks if my letters (which are admittedly verbose) are under 300 words when I bring them in (he wants an excuse to not print it). They are, usually because I've spent a long time cutting words, before submitting.

Last year, Slaven Suba did not. He had written a pro-Croat letter (the *Daily* was pro-Serb), and a message appeared asking Slaven to cut his letter. On Nov. 11 of this year, a note appeared telling Martin Dufresne that "[his] Hyde Park was just way too long." On Nov. 10, Hugh Potter had a 578 word letter printed.

Yes Mr. Potter's letter was well written. Yes, his message was important. But printing his letter, was against *Daily* policy. (And asking him to cut 278 words would not have lost his message as this could be found in his first 300 words). The *Daily* must enforce the rules for Mr. Potter that it enforces for everyone else; otherwise the *Daily* is effectively engaging in censorship.

I trust that the 300 word limit on letters is now dead, and that in the future I (and anybody else) will be able to express all my ideas (regardless of

what they are) and not have to start eliminating some in order to get my letter printed.

P.S. By the way, my word processor tells me that this is 282 words.

Jeremy Michelson
U3 Science

Ed. note. We are very curious to know when exactly the Daily has been pro-Serbian. We were not aware that the Daily had ever taken an official stance on this issue.

Look after your own shit

To the Daily:

Re: the editor's response to my letter of complaint regarding the absence of a review for Better Living.

First things first. I realize that you are students and that you can't be expected to "run around the city" finding out about current events but (and here's some news) McGill is not a city. For some strange reason I always thought that journalism and reporting involved a certain degree of investigation—I guess I was wrong.

Secondly, I came to your office two or three days before the end of the run to REMIND you to review the play—too many plays at McGill have gone unreviewed. Two of your writers had said at least a week and a half before the run of the play had BEGUN that they would do a review. Is this not sufficient

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THE MCGILL DAILY

It is possible to affect Hydro-Québec

BY BRIAN SARWER-FONER

Electricity is not clean energy according to Louis Eguren, coordinator for the Grand Council of the Crees of the resistance to Hydro-Québec's Great Whale project.

Flooding, animal drowning, mercury poisoning and the destruction of Native People's land all result from Hydro-Québec's mega-projects.

Eguren talked to a group of fifty people last Thursday at The Yellow Door. Nick Searle, a biology student, organized the event. "I had to do something about the Hydro-Québec issue to inform McGill people and get them involved," he said.

A few years ago, letter writing to New York State convinced the government to cancel a \$17 million contract with Hydro-Québec. Now Hydro-Québec is negotiating more contracts in the U.S. and Eguren hopes further letter writing to State governments (even by Canadians) can dissuade them.

James Bay II, Hydro's controversial mega-project is currently on the shelf, awaiting the results of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) before the destruction/construction can commence at the Great Whale site.

Approximately 9 000 Cree and 15 000 Inuit live in the area of James Bay. In the early 80's, the Cree were forced to sell 350 000 sq. km. of their land for the construction of James Bay I (Le Grand). They are determined not to let the same thing happen at Great Whale.

The Cree, whose lifestyle is based on hunting and fishing, are worried Hydro-Québec's actions will put an end to their traditional lifestyles. They have a saying: "If you destroy

the land, you destroy the animals; if you destroy the animals, you destroy the Cree."

Hydro not bound by EIA results

Hydro-Québec doesn't have to adhere to the advice of the assessment. Since it is owned by the Québec Government, it has the power of government behind them in order to meet their objectives.

Even if the EIA recommends that the project be reviewed, Hydro-Québec can ignore it, as Eguren fears, and forge ahead.

Eguren informed the audience of several ways in which Hydro-Québec slimes the public. For example, the public pays roughly 4.5¢ per kwh for electricity, whereas metal smelting companies pay between 1.5 to 3¢ per kwh, for their electricity. Electricity costs 2.7 to 2.9¢ per kwh to produce, which means that Québec citizens pay for the discount these smelters get from Hydro-Québec.

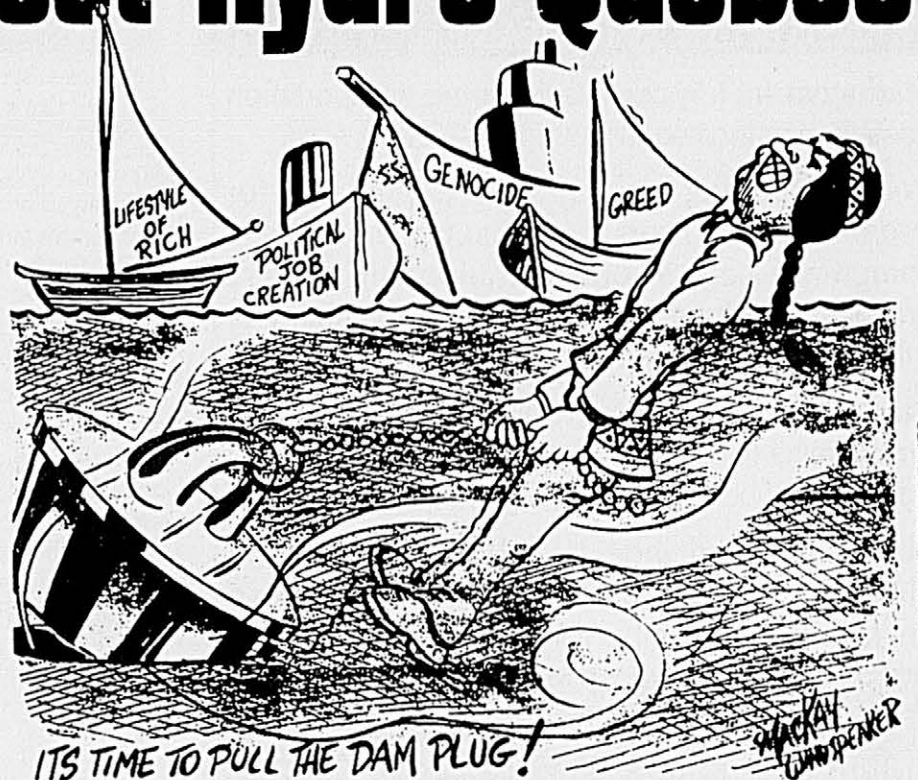
Hydro-Québec is also \$26 billion in debt — they pay \$2 billion a year to Wall Street for interest on bonds, according to Eguren.

"Each new Hydro-Québec project just ends up paying for the debt of the old projects," he said.

There is a tangled web of political factors that add to the grimness of Hydro-Québec's incessant desire to complete their plans.

Eguren feels that Chrétien/Bouchard relations in the House of Commons and the fact that Sheila Copps (the new Minister of the Environment) is from Ontario, will make the Canadian government very reluctant to say no to Hydro-Québec for fear that the Québec government will scream "separate!"

Eguren said Hydro-Québec's energy saving measures are pathetic. "There is a lot of



GRAPHIC: WINDSPEAKER

talk and a lot of lip service, but little action," he claims. He drew attention to the fact that Québec uses more energy per year than New York State yet has one third of the population.

Following the presentation, a group of students wrote several letters to various government officials in Canada and the U.S.

Nick Searle was very pleased by the turnout. "It was great that we could get together and that we learned so much and actually did something afterwards. We wrote letters, signed petitions and collected names of people who are interested in working more on

environmental and Native awareness."

If you are interested in becoming more involved with environmental and Native awareness issues, you can sign up on a sheet on the bulletin board outside the ECO office: room 410, Shatner Building.

To dissuade the N.Y. government from doing business with Hydro-Québec, write:

The Honorable Mario Cuomo
Governor of New York
State Capitol
Albany, N.Y.
12224

Peer educators initiate group discussion Sex, condoms and alcohol...

BY JANYA FREER

A McGill student group is spearheading talk on sexually transmitted diseases, contraception, sexual assault and alcohol. The Peer Educators are facilitating informal group discussions for the McGill Community.

"The service provided by the Peer Educators is unique in that it is based on students educating their peers," said Suzanne Lawson, a nurse at Health Services of McGill who helps to coordinate the programme.

"Those participating in the discussions tend to feel more validity in their perceptions since there is not that gap in experience that exists between a student and a professional," added Lawson.

The Peer Education Programme was initiated in the fall of 1990, and now consists of sixteen volunteers of diverse backgrounds and orientations.

Joanna Salit, who requested a workshop on birth control for the Women's Union, thought the presenters were very effective.

"The Peer Educators came well-prepared with a whole array of birth control devices and were ready to address questions about their proper use. The information was pertinent since we want our members to be familiar with the contraception we have available for sale to all students," said Salit.

"The discussion was very open; this is a benefit of peer education. It wasn't felt that anyone was passing judgment," she added.

Dr. Pierre Tellier was involved in the training seminar at which the peers acquired

knowledge in various topic areas, and developed the necessary skills to pass this information on in an effective and interesting manner. "I was impressed with the resourcefulness the group showed in creating comfortable atmospheres for discussion and in dealing with different situations," said Tellier.

It is hoped that participants will go out and share what they learned with their own friends and peers.

"The peer educators are trained to present facts on a variety of issues which are important to the community. We are hoping for a ripple effect," said Lawson.

The free 1-2 hour workshops can be requested by any group including sports teams, clubs, residence floors, fraternities, sororities, or even friends.

The peer educators are also involved in the organization of various community

awareness days sponsored by Health Services throughout the year.

HIV/AIDS/STD Awareness Day is scheduled for November 18th from 10h00-15h00 in rooms 107 and 108 of the Student Union Building. A guest speaker will give an account of living with HIV at 13h00. For information or requests contact Suzanne or Sarah at 398-6017.

THINGS MACLEAN'S FORGOT...

James McGill had black slaves, Otto Maas built mass-destruction chemical weapons, the CIA conducted brainwashing experiments on campus, McGill has no racial harassment policy, McGill tried to hike tuition fees over the summer...

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Dean of the Faculty of Engineering

The second term of Dean Pierre R. Bélanger of the Faculty of Engineering comes to an end on May 31, 1994. An Advisory Committee to review the Deanship has, therefore, been established in accordance with the Statutes. The Dean of Engineering supervises and administers the programmes, budgets, and all activities of the Faculty. Appropriate scholarly and administrative experience is required.

McGill University is committed to equity in employment.

Nominations to, and applications for, as well as comments about, the position are invited. A curriculum vitae should accompany the application or the nomination. These should be addressed to:

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STUDENTS' SOCIETY BRIEF

Blood drive must change its questionnaire

Students' Society passed a motion at last Thursday's council meeting to cease sponsoring the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) blood drive on McGill campus unless they reword their questionnaire which unfairly targets homosexual men.

The same motion was defeated at a Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) council meeting on November 3. Many PGSS councillors supported the motion in principle, but felt that a blood drive boycott was too harsh a measure.

The motion, submitted to council at the request of Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays of McGill (LBGM), takes issue with the first part of question 12 of the CRC Health Assessment Questionnaire which asks potential male donors if, since 1977, they have had "sex with another male, even once."

James Edwards from the Concordia Queer Collective, who attended the meeting, said, "Let's face it, how many queer males haven't had sex since 1977?" According to Edwards, the question focuses on high-risk groups rather than on high-risk activities and perpetuates misinformation about how AIDS is spread.

The same question asks whether or not the potential donor has shared needles, or accepted money or drugs in exchange for sex.

"All others [parts to question 12, besides the first part] are activity specific, they don't ask 'are you a prostitute, are you a drug user'... What does this say about the CRC's view of the homosexual community?" asked vp finance Paul Johnson, who strongly supported the motion.

LBGM objects to the question

because it prevents a whole community from donating blood, while allowing, for example, women who have had unprotected sex to donate. LBGM drew attention to the fact that while rates of AIDS among gay men are plateauing, those among heterosexual women are rising steadily.

Council was strongly divided over the motion. Athletics rep James Stewart stated that the motion "puts the [Students' Society] constitution ahead of the lives of others", and urged other councillors not to let supporters of the motion silence their views.

Despite Stewart's 'heroic' effort, sixteen councillors voted in favour of the motion, six against, and 4 abstained.

- Liz Unna

EVENTS

Pugwash! Meeting today at 18h30 in Burnside Hall 305. Come see the video *Small is Beautiful* and participate in the ensuing discussion! Happy happy! Joy! Joy!

LAGEM (Lesbian and Gay Employees of McGill) meeting at 17h30 today at Thomson House. Welcome at all.

The McGill Students Volunteer Bureau will be holding its 6th annual Food drive from Nov. 16-Dec. 17. Boxes will be placed in lobbies of all major McGill buildings. Toys and all non-perishable foods welcome!

International Socialists meet this Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 19h30 This week's meeting: *Why the cops are getting away with murder*. Concordia University, Hall Building 7th floor, Bishop and De Maisonneuve. Wed. Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Victor Mosche, Canadian representative of the ANC, will speak on *Preparations for the democratic election in South Africa and the rule of the African National Congress after the election*. Free Admission. Nov. 18, 19h30, Leacock rm 232.

Qui gouverne quoi? C'est sous ce thème que se tiendra les 19 et 20 novembre prochains à l'Université du Québec à Montréal le *Colloque des jeunes politiques 1993*. Thierry Hentsch, professeur au Département de science politique de l'UQAM, prononcera une conférence intitulée *La citoyenneté est-elle encore possible? Réflexion sur la démocratie*, le vendredi 19 novembre à 17 heures au local A-2875.

Ukrainian Students Association meeting, Pyvo and Pyrohy! Friday, Nov. 19 at the CYM Hall. Call Taras for more info (737-0146). We're always looking for a new member!

McGill Choral Society presents *MESSIAH* by G.F. Handel and other assorted works. Saturday, November 27th, 15h at Erskine American Church, corner of Sherbrooke and Avenue du Musée. Wheelchair access possible. \$5 adults, \$3 students and seniors (suggested donation).

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14 - NOTICES

LBGM Weekly discussion groups: Wed. Bi-group 5:30, 5th flr. Eaton Bldg. Fri. Coming Out 5:30, General 7:00, both at UTC, 3521 University. All welcome.

Questioning your sexuality? Or do you have any other concerns and need to talk? Call the LBGM Peer Counselling Line at 398-6822 Mon. to Fri. 7 to 10 pm.

15 - VOLUNTEERS

Want experience with babies & pre-schoolers or with multiculturalism? Volunteer for Parenthese, a special playgroup for mothers & their young children Tues. or Thurs. (1:00-4:30pm) at CLSC Metro. Info: Cyndy Spilberg 934-0354 ext. 354.

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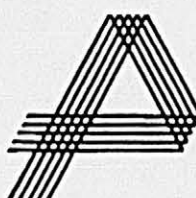
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